

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 2968

E.O. 11652: GDS 12/31/80

TAGS: MCAP, NATO

SUBJECT: RATIONALIZATION AND SPECIALIZATION (R/S)

REF: STATE 106573

SUMMARY. DURING MAY 28 MEETING, EWG DISCUSSED SEVERAL DEFINITIONS OF RATIONALIZATION AND SPECIALIZATION. TIME LIMITATIONS PRECLUDED LENGTHY DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT WHICH, MISSION FEELS, WILL REQUIRE CONSIDERABLE EWG TIME AND EFFORT TO HAMMER OUT DEFINITIONS ACCEPTABLE TO ALL. EWG CONCLUDED THIS MEETING'S DISCUSSION OF R/S BY AGREEING THAT IS SHOULD DRAFT A REPORT ON THE STATUS OF WORK TO DATE FOR CONSIDERATION BY DPC ON JUNE 6 AND THEN FURTHER SUBMISSION TO MINISTERS ON JUNE 14. END SUMMARY.

1. THE EWG ATTEMPTED TO DEFINE RATIONALIZATION AND SPECIALIZATION DURING MAY 28 DISCUSSION OF THIS AGENDA ITEM. BECAUSE OF TIME LIMITATIONS, EWG WAS UNABLE TO ESTABLISH MUCH COMMON GROUND AMONG VARYING PROPOSED DEFINITIONS.

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2. US REP (BGEN BOWMAN) PRESENTED DEFINITION OF RATIONALIZATION PROVIDED BY REFTTEL, EXPLAINING THAT IS WAS OFFERED AS A BASIS FOR DISCUSSION. SHAPE REP (BGEN MILLER) AND MILITARY COMMITTEE REP (BTEN VON ZUR GATHEN) INDICATED ACCEPTANCE OF THIS

DEFINITION IF THE WORDS "WITHIN AND BETWEEN" WERE INSERTED INSTEAD OF THE 13TH WORD ("OF") IN THE DEFINITION. OTHER EWG MEMBERS SUPPORTED THE GENERAL IDEA OF INCLUDING ACTIONS WITHIN NATIONS AS WELL AS THOSE AMONG MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE.

3. ITALIAN REP (RADM MACCHIAVELLI) REPORTED HIS AUTHORITIES SEE RATIONALIZATION AS BEING ANY "RATIONAL" ACT IN THE AREAS OF (1) SPECIALIZATION, (2) STANDARDIZATION OR, (3) COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF PRODUCTION. SPECIALIZATION, ON THE OTHER HAND, INVOLVES SPECIFIC TASKS IN (1) THE WAY FORCES ARE USED; (2) TRAINING OR; (3) ARMS PRODUCTION. SHAPE REP, SUPPORTED BY MC REP, FELT THAT THE WAY FORCES ARE USED SHOULD BE THE KEY TO A DEFINITION OF SPECIALIZATION, WHICH SHOULD BE TAKEN IN THE GDP CONTEXT. THAT IS, SPECIALIZATION SHOULD RELATE TO THE ASSIGNMENT OF FIGHTING TASKS TO ORGANIZATIONS OF NATIONS; FOR EXAMPLE, WHO IS TO PERFORM THE AIR SUPERIORITY ROLE?

4. THIS PROMISING EWG DISCUSSION WAS THEN REDIRECTED BY BELGIAN REP (TAYMANS) WHO ANNOUNCED THAT HIS AUTHORITIES HAD DECIDED ON CERTAIN DEFINITIONS OF RATIONALIZATION AND SPECIALIZATION WHICH NATO SHOULD ADOPT "TO AVOID FUTURE CONFUSION". HIS DEFINITIONS WERE LENGTHY AND POSSIBLY MORE IN THE NATURE OF EXPLANATIONS. MISSION WILL FORWARD WHEN TRANSLATED AND AVAILABLE.

5. AT THIS POINT, CHAIRMAN (HUMPHREYS) POSTPONED FURTHER DISCUSSION OF DEFINITIONS UNTIL NEXT MEETING MAY 31. BASED ON VARYING POSITIONS AND BELGIAN INTERVENTION, MISSION FEELS THAT EWG WILL HAVE TO DEVOTE CONSIDRABLE ATTENTION TO SUBJECT BEFORE AGREED DEFINITIONS ARE POSSIBLE.

6. CHAIRMAN THEN RAISED THE SUBJECT OF THE EWG REPORT ON R/S TO DEFENSE MINISTERS. HE NOTED THAT THE REPORT SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE DPC ON JUNE 6 FOR APPROVAL AND FURTHER SUBMISSION TO MINISTERS. AFTER A SHORT DISCUSSION, EWG AGREED THAT IS SHOULD RAFT A REPORT SIMPLY SETTING FORTH THE WORK UNDETAKEN, THE STATUS, THE DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED, CONFIDENTIAL

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AND THE COURSE OF FUTURE ACTION.
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